IELTS VOCABULARY MASTERCLASS 8.5

BOOK 2

Master IELTS Collocations: Reading Vocabulary & Listening Vocabulary (IELTS Vocabulary Book 2©)

MARC ROCHE

IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5

©

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Marc Roche

8.5

“Your understanding of what you read and hear is, to a very large degree, determined by your vocabulary, so improve your vocabulary daily.”

- *Winston Churchill*

Disclaimer

Topics covered in this book-

IELTS vocabulary, IELTS listening, IELTS grammar, IELTS speaking, IELTS writing, IELTS reading, IELTS academic, collocations in use

Table of Contents

Get Marc Roche's Starter Library FOR FREE

Sign up for the no-spam newsletter and get an introductory book and lots more exclusive content, all for free.

Details can be found at the end of the book.

Dedication

For my beautiful son, who brightens my day with his smile, his questions and his mischief.

For my parents, who have always been there.

For Maddi, for being such a wonderful mother to my son.

EPIGRAPH

The limits of my language are the limits of my universe.

- *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

Vocabulary enables us to interpret and to express. If you have a limited vocabulary, you will also have a limited vision and a limited future.

- *Jim Rohn*

FOREWORD

Dear reader,

Congratulations, you now have a secret pocket-guide with the most important collocations in the IELTS reading and listening tests. You can whip this nifty guide out whenever you want for some quick high-focus revision!

I've been lucky enough to be able to help many students improve their IELTS vocabulary, IELTS listening, IELTS speaking and IELTS Reading & Writing skills over the last ten years or so.

When I first started working as a business writing coach and IELTS teacher in 2009, I felt like I had a lot to learn, and fortunately I still do.

The information in this book comes from hundreds of hours of research and from my practical experience of preparing thousands of students for this exam.

The contents of this book are not exhaustive, but I've tried my best to compile the most original and valuable information possible for you.

Best Regards,

Marc

WHY COLLOCATIONS IN USE?

IELTS Vocabulary Book 2: "IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5. BOOK 2: Master IELTS Collocations: Reading Vocabulary & Listening Vocabulary"

The reason why IELTS Vocabulary Book 2 focuses exclusively on collocations in use:

Many candidates preparing for IELTS, study countless hours learning hundreds of obscure high-level words, but they never realize something VERY IMPORTANT.

+ The IELTS test is designed so that high-level vocabulary is usually not central to the information being transmitted. This means that you don’t need to know most of these words for the exam, you ONLY need to learn how to understand the general message based on the context.

+ IELTS is designed to test your REAL ability in English and collocations are a BIG part of this, so they are VERY common in the reading and listening parts of the exam.

+ Collocations are usually PACKED with meaning and this is why native speakers use them so often in REAL English.

+ BECAUSE collocations are full of meaning, it’s often extremely difficult to understand them from context, so you must learn them for the exam.

+ When the IELTS EXAMINERS write the exam, they use collocations to test your REAL ability to understand English.

+ If you want to get a higher band score in the IELTS test, instead of focusing on obscure high-level language, you need to focus on what the EXAMINERS are focusing on! – If the use of collocations is one of the elements they are focusing on, you should learn them.

About this Book

About "IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5. BOOK 2: Master IELTS Collocations: Reading Vocabulary & Listening Vocabulary"

Listening vocabulary and reading vocabulary are not only vital if you want to achieve the highest band scores in the IELTS test, but also if you want to be able to function in English at an academic and professional level. Master English collocations in use quickly with this IELTS vocabulary book packed FULL of highly focused and easy to follow exercises and explanations. "IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5. BOOK 2: Master IELTS Collocations" will guide you step-by-step through ADVANCED level IELTS collocations in use, with SPECIALISED exercises and review notes for the exam.

"IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5. BOOK 2: Master IELTS Collocations", is specially designed for serious IELTS candidates who don't want to waste time. This vocabulary book will make you more efficient at learning new terms and reduce your preparation time, which will give you more free time to focus on other areas.

Hard work and organization are all it takes when it comes to the exam. I'd like to wish you the best of luck.

Stay organised, stay focused and stay positive.

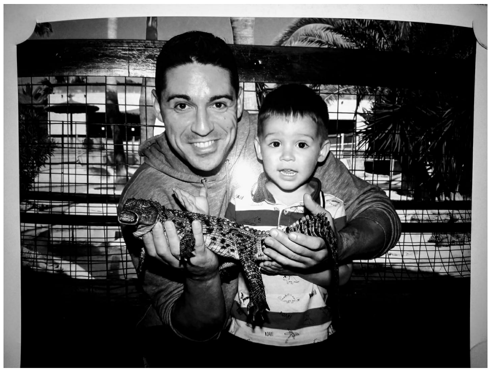
How to Use This Book

"IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5. BOOK 2. Master IELTS Collocations: Reading Vocabulary & Listening Vocabulary" is designed to help you improve your IELTS vocabulary with a special focus on English collocations. I've written this book for quick reference, as I wanted to avoid it becoming too heavy and theoretical.

The collocations are organized alphabetically into sections for quick reference. Each term includes an explanation of its meaning and an example. At the end of each section you can complete a short review exercise to test your knowledge.

This is not an exhaustive list of collocations that could come up in the IELTS exam, it's more of a curated list of the most common ones in the exam, with a special focus on those that appear in the listening and reading exams.

About The Author



Marc is originally from Manchester and currently lives in Spain. He is a writer, teacher, trainer, and entrepreneur. He has collaborated with organizations such as the British Council, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and University of Technology Sydney among others. Marc has also worked with multinationals such as Nike, GlaxoSmithKline or Bolsas y Mercados.

Learn more about Marc at amazon.com/author/marcroche

OTHER BOOKS BY MARC ROCHE

IELTS Vocabulary Masterclass 8.5 (BOOK 1)

IELTS Writing Masterclass 8.5

Grammar for IELTS 8.5 (Book 1)

IELTS COLLOCATIONS FOR 8.5
(READING & LISTENING VOCABULARY)

Set 1

about time-
This phrase is used to express an event that should have already happened. When it finally happens, someone might say 'it's about time' meaning that they are displeased with how long this event took to occur.

above average -
When something is better than the usual.

absolutely necessary-
Something which is essential.

action movie-
A film centred around exciting sequences of fighting, explosions, or chase scenes.

after dark-
Literally when the sun goes and there is no more sunlight. Night-time.

after hours-
Use this phrase to talk about things that happen after normal operating hours of a business or office. It can also be used to refer to a club or bar that is open later than others.

after party-
A celebration, usually at a smaller place with less people, following a bigger celebration.

afraid of-
Used to talk about things that scare you or that you fear.

Pronoun + *verb 'to be' + afraid not-
This is used to express a negative answer regretfully. It can be used as a gentle way to say that something can't be done or that something hasn't been done

Question: ‘Did Jim finish the project in time?’
Answer: ‘I’m afraid not’

against the law-
an action which has been outlawed by the legal system.

alternative medicine-
Holistic medicine which is often natural and traditional. This type of medicine is ‘alternative’ to what is often called western medicine, which usually involves surgeries and pharmaceutical medications. Another term for alternative medicine is eastern medicine as many of these practices come from Asian countries.

alphabetical order-
A way to organize lists of information which follows the same organization as the alphabet by the first letter of the word.

all in-
To be completely invested in something. This can be used to talk about emotional investment as well as financial investment.

all of the time-
Things that happen ‘all of the time’ happen frequently or continuously.

all over-
When something is finished or completed

amazed by-
When something causes someone to be in awe or feel shock. This phrase can be used to react to both positive and negative things.

angry about-
To be mad about something.

apply for a job-
Alerting a prospective employer about your interest in working for them by submitting an application or CV (resume).

ask about-
Requesting information about someone or something.

ask for directions-
If a person is lost or unsure about where to go or what to do they may ask for help in order to find their destination.

ask (for) permission-
To request if it is possible to do something from a person in authority over you.

associated with-
To be connected to a person or organization.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. After having two bad interviews, Clara was nervous about______________.
2. That restaurant is great! We go there______________.
3. She has to kill all the spiders in the house because her son is _____________them.
4. If you want to succeed in your exams, you have to be _____________. It requires constant dedication and hard work.
5. She received a raise due to her ______________ performance.
6. You have to ________ if you want to leave work early.

Key:

1. applying for a job
2. all the time
3. afraid of
4. all in
5. above average
6. ask for permission

Set 2

baggage claim-
The place in the airport where one can retrieve baggage that was stowed in the bottom of the plane.

back road(s)-
Opposite of large, busy motorways (highways). These are smaller streets, often in more rural areas, which people may opt to take for less traffic or for a more scenic route.

back pay-
The difference between what an employee is owed and what their employer has actually plaid them. Late payments are examples of back pay.

bad manners-
Social behaviour which is not accepted because it is considered rude.

become unhinged-
Used to speak about someone who is angry or upset to the point of being mentally unstable. This could be for a short period or for a longer period of time.

be someone/somebody-
An important person who has name recognition or other measure of influence.

best practices-
Methods that are considered the most appropriate or efficient ways to complete a task within an industry.

best wishes-
A polite expression used to end written correspondence.

big day-
Another way to describe a meaningful event on a certain day or a meaningful day. Weddings and other large ceremonies could be considered big days.

the big picture-
The entirety of a situation. Rather than focus on smaller finer details, the big picture refers to the overall and broader perspective of something.

black coffee-
Coffee without milk (or cream in the US) and also usually without sugar.

a black eye-
A bruising or darkening around the eye after being hit by someone or something.

black ice-
Frozen water on the street or pavement that is particularly dangerous because of how slippery it is and the fact that it’s harder to see.

black list-
A group of people who have been deemed unworthy or unfit to work with. This is not usually a real list, but rather people who are for some reason considered undesirable within an industry.

black market-
Buying or selling things illegally. This does not refer to an actual market and does not have a physical place.
black sheep-
Someone who does not fit in with a larger group (like a family) because of differences in behaviour, interest, or opinion.

black tie-
One of the most formal dress codes reserved for very important events that occur in the evening.

blue sky-
Literally a sky without clouds. It can also denote when there is sun or very nice weather.

bode well-
When something bodes well, it is a good or auspicious sign.

book a hotel-
To reserve a room in advanced at a hotel.

break a promise-
To not uphold something that a person said that they would do.

bouquet of flowers-
A unit of flowers usually arranged for decorative purposes.

bounce ideas off each other-
To openly exchange thoughts and opinions with others, often used in problem-solving or brainstorming session.

build a fire-
To make a fire for cooking or warmth purposes.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The woman was so excited about her ____________ that she couldn't sleep the night before. (Her wedding started at 2pm).
2. The new hiree was very experienced so he already knew the marketing ______________ .
3. I trust her a lot because she has never _______________ to me.
4. She bought an elegant evening dress for the _____________ event.
5. He waited for 10 minutes in _______________before he saw his bag on the carousel.
6. I prefer to take the _______ on road trips because they are always more scenic.

Key:
1. big day
2. best practices
3. broken a promise
4. black tie
5. baggage claim
6. back roads

SET 3

call a cab *(British and Australian)-
Request a taxi for a ride either by phone or with an application like Uber.

call home-
To use a phone to contact your parents or other close relations. Used especially when people are not in the same city.

call in sick-
To contact your employers to let them know about your absence due to illness.

can do-
This phrase is used as an affirmative answer to a question. It’s like saying ‘yes I can’, or ‘I can do that’. It can also be used as an adjective to describe a person’s attitude or personality.

can opener-
A tool used to open food in a tin. It is sometimes powered by hand, but it can also be electrical.

canned food (tinned food)-
Food that comes in an aluminium tin, usually vegetables or fruits.

cast a vote-
Make an official choice for a candidate or party during an election.

catch a cold-
When someone becomes sick with symptoms of congestion, headache, and sometimes a fever.

catch the train-
To get on or board a train.

cause a scene/commotion-
To draw attention to oneself in public, usually by speaking loudly or

disrupting the normal state of affairs.

checked baggage-
Bags that are too large to be carried onto a plane and are stored under the plane during travel.

cocktail party-
Usually a small intimate party held in the evening where alcoholic drinks and sometimes food are served.

come back-
To return to a place you have previously been.

come clean-
To admit to doing something, usually a type of wrongdoing.

come first-
This phrase is used to describe something that is a priority or holds a position of importance.

come in (colour)-
Usually used to describe products that are available in multiple colours or patterns. 'This shirt comes in blue, green and black'

come to mind-
To think of something. When something comes to mind, it means that the idea appeared in your mind.

come true-
When something that someone has wanted to happen for a long time finally happens. Often used with dreams or wishes.

comfort food-
Food that is very filling and makes one feel cosy. It is often food from one's childhood.

(in the) coming weeks/months/years-

This phrase is used to talk about things that are expected to happen in the future.

commit a crime-
To do something illegal.

common interest-
Shared passions or ideas people may have with each other.

conduct research-
To carry out scientific experiments.

convenience store (corner shop)-
A shop which sells a multitude of useful items and foodstuffs, like snacks, drinks, cleaning and hygiene products.

copy and paste-
Mostly used for computers and smart phones, this process involves duplicating text or images so that they can be used elsewhere on the device.

cookie jar-
A container, usually ceramic, used to store cookies or similar types of sweets.

creative license-
The freedom someone might take in retelling a story to make it more interesting to the listeners.

current events/affairs-
News stories of note and interest.

cutting edge-
Used to describe the newest and latest technology available.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. They got along very well because of their __________in stamp collecting.
2. The sweater ________ in four colours.
3. I didn't go to work because I ________ over the weekend.
4. She has a very _______ attitude. She's very positive and resilient.
5. Instead of taking the bus, we decided to ________.
6. My office is throwing a _______ if you would like to join me.

Key:
1. common interest
2. came in (or 'comes in')
3. caught a cold
4. can do
5. call a cab
6. cocktail party

Set 4

a day off-
A day when someone does not go to work or school. This can be because of a holiday or an individual choice to not go to work. Usually this phrase is not applied to Saturdays and Sundays, however, it can be used to describe scheduled days in which one does not work.

deal with someone/something-
To acknowledge a problematic situation, problem, or person and solve the issue. To successfully handle a problem.

dead battery-
Used to describe electronics which have no charge and will not function until the charge is restored, usually used for phones and laptops.

deck of cards-
A complete unit of cards for playing games. In games like poker, a standard deck of cards is 54. In games like Uno, a complete deck would be a different number.

in the deep end-
This has two meanings. The literal meaning is the area of a swimming pool with the greatest depth.
The figurative meaning is when someone finds himself or herself in the most complex and complicated part of a problem or situation. If a company throw you in at the deep end when you start a new job, it means that they put you in the job without the necessary training or resources and you are supposed to adapt and learn while you're working.

deep sleep-
Used to describe a period of sleep that was not interrupted by anything.

deep thought-
An idea which is considered particularly profound. It can also be used to describe someone who is thinking about something very intensely. IN this case, we would say something like 'He was in deep thought (He was deep in

thought), when suddenly the phone rang'

dining room-
A room in a person's home which is dedicated to eating meals, usually for more formal occasions. A dining room is also the space in which people eat in restaurants.

draw heavily from-
When someone is very influenced by someone or something else. We would say something like 'he draws heavily from other crime novels in his latest book'

draw pictures-
To create a piece of art or other type of visual representation of something, usually with your hands.

draw someone's attention to something-
To purposefully make someone focus on something specific.

do chores/housework-
Complete tasks like tidying, cleaning, organizing around a person's home etc.

do someone a favour-
To do something nice for someone else without expectation of repayment.

do better/worse-
To improve performance at a task. The opposite is for a decline in performance.

do homework-
To complete assignments meant to be finished outside the classroom.

do laundry-
To wash clothing, linens, or other fabric-based materials.

do someone's hair/makeup/nails-
These actions are all used to describe enhancing one's appearance

surrounding these specific attributes.

do someone's best-

When someone attempts to perform a task to the best of their abilities. It's important to do your best in class if you want to be successful in the exam.

do someone's part-

To contribute with effort or hard work in a group or team setting to achieve a specific goal.

do the math-

To make specific calculations, usually used to talk about money or finances.

do the right thing-

Choosing to do something which is morally right or just.

do time-

Colloquial. Used to describe when someone has been sentenced to spend time in prison or jail. We would say something like this: 'He did time for robbery'.

domestic dispute-

A fight, either verbal or physical, between people who live together.

due date-

A day or time when an assignment or project should be submitted. Also used to describe the date when a pregnant woman's child is predicted to be born.

dye someone's hair/clothes-

To change the colour of someone's hair or clothing using dyes specifically meant for this purpose.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. She was unable to _________ her busy schedule because she had too many meetings and appointments.

2. He always ____ on the weekends when he wasn’t working.

3. Hairdressers rarely have the same ______ as they work usually work on the weekends.

4. As children, they almost never ate in the ______ except at Christmas and other holidays.

5. It was clear that the artist _____ from the works of Monet and Degas.

6. I need to ______because I don’t have any clean socks.

Key:

1. deal with
2. did housework
3. days off
4. dining room
5. drew heavily
6. do laundry

Set 5

early adopter/adoptee-
The first people to accept something, usually new technology or ideas.

early bird-
Someone who arrives before an appointed time or very promptly.

early days-
At the beginning of a project or undertaking before one can say if it will be successful.

(to have an) early night-
To go to bed sooner than usual.

earn a living/salary (make a living)-
To make enough money to live from your job.

easy access-
A place which is simple to enter or something which is easy to get to.

easy money-
Money that was not difficult to make.

eat in/out-
Eating out refers to eating meals at restaurants or other public establishments, while 'eating in' refers to having a meal in your home or someone else's.

eat well-
This has two meanings: either to eat food that is healthy and nutritious or to eat a large amount of food.
eating habits-
Dietary tendencies.

electric car-
A car that runs at least partially on electric energy rather than petrol.

elevator pitch-
A short speech used to convince someone of something.

empty promise-
A promise which has no hope of being upheld or fulfilled.

entry-level job (position)-
A job which doesn't require much experience. These jobs are usually reserved for those just beginning their careers.

ethnic group-
People who share a common background, ancestry, or religion.

even number-
A number which is divisible by two.

evening gown-
A dress worn to formal events. They are usually floor-length.

evenly distribute-
To uniformly disperse over an area, or to share things equally amongst people.

evenly matched-
Used to describe people or things that are of equal skill, talent or quality.

exact likeness-
When two things are almost identical.

exceed expectation(s)-
When someone or something performs better than was predicted or expected.

existential crisis-
Problems concerning one's belief in their reason for being or purpose in life.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The family tried to _____as much as possible as it is healthier.
2. _____ of technology usually remain loyal to the brand.
3. She has the ______ of her mother.
4. Anna left the bar at seven because she wanted an _____.
5. An ________ is very energy efficient.
6. I would even accept an _____; I need the money.

Key:
1. eat in
2. early adopters
3. exact likeness
4. early night
5. electric car
6. entry-level job

Set 6

face a fear-
To find a way to overcome something which scares you. This often involves people putting themselves in direct contact with the thing which is causing the fear.

face the facts-
A gentle imperative command asking someone to accept the difficult reality of a situation.

face wash-
A product which is used to cleanse the face of dirt or makeup.

fair trade-
This is an economic practice by which international corporations buy products from the developing world. This particular practice is especially beneficial to the producers as it ensures they will be treated well and not taken advantage of.

familiar face-
Used to describe a person who you have met before, even briefly. It is often used to express pleasure in seeing the other person.

fall asleep-
A verbal expression describing the act of going to sleep.

fall in love-
The process of acquiring profound feelings of attraction for another person.

feed pets-
Giving animals in your care food.

feel free-
Letting people know that they are able to act or do as they please. For example, we could say to a friend who is staying in our house; 'feel free to grab food and drinks from the fridge'

field trip-
Taking students from their normal campus in order to do something educational or fun. These include things like excursions to the theatre, museums, or zoos.

fight fire-
The job of extinguishing fires on a large scale. The person who does this job is called a firefighter.

final destination-
The last place a form of transportation will stop.

finger food-
Light buffet style snacks often served at cocktail parties or before a larger meal.

free time-
A synonym for leisure time. This is used to describe what someone likes doing when they are not studying or working. It's a common theme in the IELTS test.

follow a rule/law-
To behave in accordance to rules and laws.

the following day/month/year-
A time in the future that is yet to come. It just means the day, month or year after what we've mentioned. For example, we could have a dialogue like this:
John - 'Mary, are you working next Friday?'
Mary- 'Yes, why?'
John- 'Could you help me prepare my presentation for the following Monday? I'm feeling quite nervous'

follow your dreams/heart-
To do something that you have always wanted to do. This can be used to describe a career path someone has always wanted to pursue. Following your heart can also be used to reference making decisions using instinct and sentiment rather than logic or reason.

foreign policy-
The laws, legislation, and general dealings that one country has with others.

force of habit-
Things that are done with little thought because someone does them very often.

free fall-
To plummet quickly. This phrase can be used to describe a certain type of rollercoaster which vertically drops riders quickly. It can also be used to when talking about stocks and markets which have lost value unexpectedly fast.

free speech-
The right that an individual has to express their opinions freely through speaking and writing. This includes criticizing one's government or one's employer.

frozen food-
Food that has been frozen in order to preserve it for longer.

frozen solid-
A description of something that is so cold that it has developed ice crystals both outside and in making it seem like one complete mass.

full coverage-
When something is completely covered. This could describe physical objects, or it can be used in a less literal sense. Makeup which completely covers the blemishes could be described as being full coverage. Insurance which provides things like dental and vision could also be described as full coverage.

full house-
A description of a place which has a lot of people. It is most commonly used for homes in which many people are living. It can also be used in poker to describe a particular hand with three cards of the same value and two other cards with the same value.

full length-
When used for physical objects, full length usually means something that reaches to the floor in length, oftentimes dresses and mirrors. It can also be used to describe media like books, TV, and movies which are presented in their entirety.

full moon-
When the entire face of the moon is visible from Earth.

furrowed brow-
The brow is the area between the eyes and hairline. Furrowing this area means the eyes are usually raised creating wrinkles in the forehead. It is usually used to denote when people are thinking or worried about a problem.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The _____movie is not shown on airplanes, as it's too long for most short flights.
2. He likes to read sci-fi and horror novels in his _______.
3. Her birthday will be the _______.
4. I usually watch TV before I ______.
5. It was good to see a _______ at the party because I didn't know many people.
6. The children were excited about their ________to the art museum.

Key:

1. full length
2. free time
3. following month
4. fall asleep
5. friendly face
6. field trip

Set 7

gain entry-
To have access to a place and have the ability to go in.

gain weight-
An increase in body mass.

garment bag-
A special bag which is used to store clothing without wrinkles or creases while traveling.

general knowledge-
Knowing a small amount on a wide variety of topics.

get a joke-
To understand the reason why certain things are humorous.

get angry-
To become mad at someone or something.

get dressed-
To put clothes on, usually the clothing one wears to leave the house.

get hired/fired-
Getting hired means to gain employment. Its opposite is to 'get fired' meaning that someone has been made to leave their job.

get into trouble-
To do something which will lead to a reprimand or some other kind of punitive action.

get married/divorced-
To legally wed somebody. The opposite, 'getting divorced' means that a couple has decided to end their marriage.

get paid-
To receive money for doing a job.

get rid of something-
To remove something, usually by putting it in the garbage.

go abroad-
To leave one's country to travel to another. This is usually used for short periods of time like for a vacation.

go crazy-
To lose one's sanity. This can either be said figuratively or literally. In the figurative sense it means to become, and in the literal sense it can mean to go insane.

go for a walk/run-
Walking or running for leisure. This is not usually done as a means of transportation but rather for exercise or pleasure.

go green-
To start practices which are good for the environment. These include things like recycling, composting, or not using more energy than necessary.

go to sleep/bed-
To get into bed and sleep.

go wrong-
When something is amiss and has not happened according to plan.

good cause-
A charitable organization which one can donate money to.

good company-
A group of people who are fun and interesting to be around.

good grade-
Used to describe a positive score on test or other things which are graded.

good looking-
Something which is attractive, this phrase is usually used to describe people, but it can also be used for objects.

good luck-
A phrase used to wish someone success or good fortune. It is often said to people who will soon undergo important events.

give a performance-
To act, sing, dance or complete any other kind of artistic action for an audience.

give someone a hand-
A request for help, usually for a type of manual labour.

give something a go-
To attempt or try something for the first time.

group effort-
People working together to achieve something together.

guilty conscience-
A feeling of regret or remorse that someone has. This is a negative feeling which can usually be relieved after the person has admitted to their wrongdoing.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. Anna wished Eric _________ before he went on his business trip.
2. I will give you the money when I _________on Friday.
3. The little girl was very proud of her ________ in school.
4. The company has decided to _______ in order to seem more eco-conscious.
5. You have to interview before you can ________ at a company.
6. I need to _______ a lot of clothing that doesn't fit anymore.

Key

1. good luck
2. get paid
3. good grades
4. go green
5. get hired
6. get rid of

SET 8

hail a cab-
To hold up one's arm to get a taxi cab to stop for you. This always done on the street. Taxi stands involve queuing and waiting for a taxi to become free.

handle a situation/problem-
To have the capacity to fix an issue.

hang up the phone-
A recall to when phones were in the home and hung from the wall. To hang up the phone means to end a phone call with someone.

happy accident-
A coincidence that ends favourably. This phrase can also be applied to mistakes which lead to unexpectedly good result.

happy ending-
Usually used for stories in TV, books, and films. A happy ending sees all of the main characters' lives having a satisfying conclusion.

happy hour-
Casual events hosted by bars and restaurants which feature discounts on meals and alcoholic drinks for a few hours. Happy hours usually occur early in the evening and were created to attract patrons after work. For this reason, happy hour usually begins at 5pm when many people are finished with work.

hard work-
This phrase can be used in a couple of different ways. It can be used to describe actually difficult physical or mental labour. It can also be used to describe satisfaction with a person's efforts.

haunted house-
An attraction or amusement park that usually happens during Halloween. People walk through a building to be purposefully scared by actors who portray things like ghosts and zombies.

have an allergy/allergies-
When people have a negative bodily reaction to certain foods, plants, animals, or dust. Common reactions include sneezing, red eyes, or an itchy rash. More severe reactions can involve restriction of the airways.

have a meal-
To eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner.
have a problem-
To have an issue or other concern which requires attention.

have an idea-
To put forth a thought or opinion about something. This is also a way to express an idea someone is unsure about.

have fun-
To enjoy something or be amused by an activity.

have room-
To have enough physical space for something.

have time-
Having freedom within one's schedule or to be able to do something as your schedule allows.

heavy rain-
Very bad weather, when rain is coming down very hard and fast.

heavy smoker-
A person who has many cigarettes in a day.

heavy traffic-
A time when there are many cars, busses, and other vehicles on the road making for a lot congestion.

hidden agenda-
A secret motive for doing something that is unknown to others.

hidden fees-
Costs which are not usually given up front to someone when buying something. These costs may be related to installation, labour, or commission of a product or service.

high fashion-
A genre of fashion which is marked by luxury, expensive materials, and one-of-a-kind garments.

high score-
Usually in reference to games, a high score refers to the person who has the most points.

high status-
Something which holds a place of extreme importance. This can refer to a person, groups, or organization.

high temperature-
Very hot conditions.

higher education-
Institutions of learning after secondary schools like colleges and universities.

hiring freeze-
A business practice intended to reduce costs by not employing any new people.

hold back-
To refrain from doing something for a time or show restraint.

hold hands-
The act of taking someone else’s hands in your own.

hold office-
People who have been appointed or elected to work in politics.

hot sauce-

Any type of spicy condiment which contains chili or peppers.

human error-
When something is the fault of person rather than the fault of the machine or piece of technology that the person is using.

human nature-
Traits and characteristics ascribed to all humans.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The price nearly doubled after the _______ were taken into account.
2. The ________ caused all of the flowers to wilt.
3. We always take a trip to a _______ for Halloween.
4. Can you ________? I am ready to go home.
5. Donald Trump is the only president who has never _________ before.

Key:
1. hidden fees
2. high temperature
3. haunted house
4. hail a cab
5. held office

SET 9

identity crisis-
A feeling of being uncertain about oneself to the point of not knowing ones' place in society.

ill effects-
Negative outcomes of something.

ill health-
A period of sickness.

immediate action-
Something that requires attention as soon as possible in order to divert a problem. This is almost always a negative thing.

immediate family-
Members of your family who you are the closest with. They are usually the people you grew up in the same house with, like your parents and siblings. Your immediate family can also include family members who live in close proximity who you see often.

in a row-
Things which form a line horizontally.

in charge of-
To be responsible for someone or something.

in light of-
Decisions or choices made after new information is learned.

initial stages-
The first steps of a project or process.

an inquiry into-
To seek information about something through official investigation. This is often used to talk about investigations into government, police or army

actions and policies.

innocent mistake-
An error that was not made on purpose or intended to harm anyone.

inside joke-
A piece of humour which is based on people sharing an experience. Outside of this context it is not considered funny or requires a lot of explanation.

inside job-
Corruption against a company or industry that is committed by people who are a part of that company or industry.

inspired by-
To be stimulated intellectually or creatively by someone or something.

intelligence agency-
A governmental organization which is in charge of collecting information in order to promote security of the nation.

internal medicine-
The type of medicine practiced by a general doctor.

interest group-
An organization dedicated to promoting their shared interest.

irreparable damage-
Harm which is not able to be fixed.

issue a warning-
To give a formal reprimand after a rule or law has been broken.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. _____ of current events, the company has decided to change their business strategy.
2. I am part of an ______ that advocates for animal rights.
3. The problem with the computer system required ______ from the engineering team.
4. The storm caused _____ to the house.
5. All of the animals stood _____ waiting to be fed.

Key:
1. In light of
2. interest group
3. immediate action
4. irreparable damage
5. in a row

Set 10

job interview-
A meeting held between a prospective job applicant and employer in order to obtain future employment for the applicant.

joint account-
A bank account which is shared by two people.

joint effort-
An accomplishment which is shared by two people

journal entry-
Writings in a personal diary or journal about one particular day in their life.

junk food-
Food that is not healthy and has few benefits to one's body. This type of food can be as small as a snack or a full meal.

jump to a (the) conclusion- jump to conclusions
When someone believes something unfounded based on little evidence which actually supports that belief.

junk mail-
Unwanted correspondence. This phrase can be used to describe physical mail which comes in the post or emails. Most junk mail is a form of advertisement.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. Don't _________. You don't have enough information about this topic to decide.
2. She is very nervous about her first _______.
3. Too much ______ will ruin your health.
4. If I receive an email I'm not interested in, I usually send it to the _________ folder.
5. Maria and Jack just opened up their own ________ together.

Key:
1. jump to conclusions
2. job interview
3. Junk food
4. junk mail
5. joint account

Set 11

keep a diary-
To maintain an account of your schedule or personal life in a handwritten book.

keep a secret-
Learning confidential information about someone or something and not telling anyone else.

keep busy-
To have a full schedule of activities. This is usually done voluntarily and can include a mix of study, work, and leisure.

keep fit-
To try and maintain a certain level of health by exercising and having a healthy diet.
keep going-
To continue in the same direction. This can be an actual physical direction as when someone is driving or walking, or it can mean following a certain plan.

keep the change-
A directive during a monetary transaction. When a bill or coin is more than the amount of a product or good, yet the seller keeps the leftover amount. This is usually done in more casual setting like restaurants.

keep to oneself-
An attempt or desire to not draw attention to oneself.

key part/role-
To have an integral role in creating or developing something.
keynote address/speaker-
A person who is giving a the most important or most anticipated speech at a conference.

knead dough-
To take dough and massage it on a floured surface to incorporate air or

stretch it.

knit a sweater-
Taking yarn and needles, especially made for knitting, and using a pattern to create a finished garment.

know about-
Having awareness of something.

know better-
Having the experience and wherewithal to make good decisions, and yet not making them.

know how-
Particular experience or understand in a certain field or on a certain topic.

known for-
The reason why someone or something is famous or important.

keep quiet-
To not make noise or not talk.

keep score-
This has two meaning. Literally, it means to count the points in a game to determine who is winning and losing. Figuratively, it means to track gains and losses between individuals, usually related to personal or professional problems.

kill time-
A purposeful way to waste time.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The restaurant is _________its modern Italian food.
2. She tries to _______ by running and biking every day as well as not eating fatty foods.
3. Before we let it rise, we have to ______for five minutes using extra flour. _
4. I have never been able to _________, I tell my husband everything.
5. Take a left and ________ past the red house on the left.

Key

1. known for
2. keep fit
3. knead the dough
4. keep a secret
5. keep going

Set 12

large scale-
Something that is very big which needs many people or things in order for it work.

last forever-
Something that will never diminish, fade, or lessen in number.

law and order-
The system by which people are governed and follow the rules. This involves the police and the judicial system.

lay groundwork/foundation-
To begin the first steps of a project. These things are often foundational and are the things that must be done before more substantial work can be completed.

laugh out loud-
The words behind the popular Internet speak abbreviation of 'lol.' This happens when something is so funny that a person laughs audibly.

lead to believe-
When a person is told information, which makes them think a certain way. This is phrase is often said when contrary information is presented that makes the person doubt their initial thought.

leading role-
The most important part (character) in a play or movie.

let go-
To permit something or someone to leave you.
light a candle-
To put a fire to the wick of a candle until it ignites and stays alight on its own.

like crazy-

A way to modify an emotion or desire.

live out a dream/fantasy-
To actually fulfil a long-held wish or hope in the way one imagined.

live performance-
A performance given in real time for an audience.

living room-
A common room in someone's home in which people gather to relax or work.

lock the door-
To ensure that a door is unable to be opened from the outside.

long term-
Something that will extend far into the future.

look alive-
A command used to tell someone to appear to be busy or seem cheerful.

look forward to-
To anticipate something or be excited about something.

look up information-
To research on a certain topic. This can be done for things like words in a dictionary or general information on the Internet.

lose connection-
When technology which requires a connection to a network in order to work, disconnects from the network and no longer functions.

lose control-
There are two meanings for this collocation: to be unable to maintain poised, usually because of intense emotions. It can also mean to lose being in charge of a situation.

lose faith-

There is a literal and figurative meaning for this collocation. The literal is to no longer believe in religion or a god. The figurative is to no longer have trust in a person, concept, or belief.

lose interest-
To no longer want to do something someone was previously excited about.

lose money-
Companies which are spending more money than they are earning.

lose weight-
To decrease one's body mass.

lose your temper-
To be unable to maintain composure because of strong feelings of anger.
lose an appetite-
When the desire to eat is no longer appealing. This can also be used figuratively to describe a situation in which someone no longer has interest in doing something.

lose your mind-
The loss of sanity.

lose touch with something/someone-
To no longer have contact.

loved one(s)-
Used to describe a person who you feel very close or attached to, including family members.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. I was ________that the office would be closed tomorrow.
2. We want to buy a new couch for the ________.
3. Although she used to love painting, she seems to have _______in it.
4. Christmas is a time to visit _______ in traditionally Christian countries.
5. This watch _________, it never breaks.

Key

1. led to believe
2. living room
3. lost interest
4. loved ones
5. lasts forever

Set 13

make a comeback-
Overcoming a loss and becoming successful again.

make a decision-
To choose one thing over another.
make a fool of oneself-
To do something which makes other people think less of you.

make a fortune-
To earn or win a large amount of money.

make a fuss-
To whine or cause a commotion in order to bring attention to an issue.

make a difference-
To cause a positive change in someone's life or for an organization.

make an effort-
To attempt to do the best one can at a job.

make a list-
To write a list of things one wants to remember.

make a meal-
To prepare or cook a meal. This can be used for breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

make a mess-
To leave things in a very disorganized or disorderly fashion.

make a phone call-
To use a phone to contact someone.

make a point-
To put forth ideas in order to persuade others.

make a reservation-
To reserve a place at a restaurant, hotel, or other service with limited space.

make amends-
Apologizing and trying to fix a problem or mistake that harmed another person.

make arrangements-
To organize plans for the future.

make redundant-
To be fired from a job but not due to any fault of your own.

make the bed-
To smooth the sheets and covers of a bed and make it appear neat.

make friends-
To begin an amiable relationship with someone in the hopes of achieving friendship.

make something work-
To fix something which is broken or not working properly.

make money-
The way in which someone earns money.

make light of something-
To behave as is something is not important.

make sense-
A description of something which in coherent and understandable.

make room-
To empty out an area in a certain space.

manual labour-
Work that can only be completed with a large amount of physicality, usually

not work which is done at an office.

married couple-
Two people who have legally wed each other.

mass market-
Products or good which are produced in huge quantities.

mean well-
To aim to be helpful but not being able to.

minor setback-
A small problem that causes a delay but is not detrimental.

miss a connection-
Used for travel. When change from one plane, train, or bus to another is necessary, but for some reason the passenger is unable to make the second mode of transport.

mirror image-
Two things which look exactly the same.

most of the time-
Usually, often, frequently.

more or less-
An approximate or estimate.

money maker-
Something which is very lucrative and brings in money for a company.

mountain range-
A group of mountains.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. I always ____ as soon as I wake up.
2. Lots of people like her, so it's easy for her to _____.
3. You have to ____ about whether you will stay here or go home for the holiday.
4. **_____** would cost a lot of money as you would need to rebook your next flight.
5. Children aren't very neat and tidy, and they tend to _______.

Key

1. make the bed
2. make friends
3. make a decision
4. missing a connection
5. make a mess

Set 14

nasty habit-
Something that someone does often but that is bad for their health or unpleasant in some way for others.

nasty weather-
Unpleasant weather usually involving storms or extreme temperatures, either hot or cold.

national average-
The norm or typical amount of something for a country.

native language/tongue-
The language someone learns first or the language that they speak most often at home.

native speaker-
Someone who has spoken a particular language since birth or since they were very little children.

natural disaster-
A catastrophe which was not made by man but was rather caused by nature. This includes things like tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, or earthquakes.

natural resources-
A reserve which occurred without human intervention. These are often things which humans rely upon or have learned to value such as sunlight, wind, and water.

near death experience-
The experience of almost dying. This could be caused due to an accident or medical event.

near future-
A time to come which will happen soon.

net worth-
The money and all other assets which have monetary value that a person or company is worth.

nervous about-
To be anxious or concerned about something.

nervous breakdown-
Used to describe someone who is suffering from severe mental distress to the point of being unable to function.

new and improved-
Usually used to describe products which have undergone changes in order to be made better and more attractive for customers.

newly acquired-
Something which has recently been gained by a company. These acquisitions are usually smaller companies which have been take over by larger companies.

New Year's Eve/Day-
For those using the solar calendar, New Year's Eve is the last day of the year, December 31st. New Year's Day is the first day of the new year, January 1st. New Year's Day is usually a holiday.

next door neighbour
The people who live in the houses near you. This can also be applied to people who live in apartment building. In this case it would be the people who live in the units nearest yours.

next time-
The occurrence of something after this time.

non-stop flight-
A flight on an airplane which does not have any layovers. A non-stop will not land until it has reached its final destination.

nowhere near-
A description of something which is far away from wherever the speaker is currently at.

null and void-
Used to speak about a legal document or process which no longer has any legal weight.

nutritional value-
The total amount of vitamins, protein, fat, etc. in food which can affect the body after consumption.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The field trip was cancelled due to the _______.
2. The contract was made ______ after the company decided not to move forward with the merger.
3. That office is _______ here. You need to drive 30 minutes to get there.
4. My _______is English, I don't know any other languages.
5. The earthquake was an unprecedented _________. It caused a massive amount of damage.

Key

1. nasty weather
2. null and void
3. nowhere near
4. native language
5. natural disaster

Set 15

occupational hazard-
Dangers related to working at a specific job.

odd number-
Numbers which end in an odd number, the opposite of even numbers.

old age-
Used to describe a person who is elderly.

office job-
A job which is performed mostly at an office.

on time-
Happening at the appointed time.

on TV-
Something which is broadcasted on the television.

operating hours-
The times which a place is usually open for business.

out of time-
When there is not enough time to complete a task.

owe money-
To be obligated to pay someone money which was previously borrowed.

overall effect-
The complete impression something leaves on someone.

overly exaggerated-
Overstating how good or bad something is. *(Completely exaggerated)

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. Meetings always start ______ at my office.
2. We've passed the deadline so we're _______.
3. My parents _____to the bank for the house.
4. The ______ of the painting makes me think of the sea.
5. Back pain is an _________of construction work.

Key
1. on time
2. out of time
3. owe money
4. overall effect
5. occupational hazard

SET 16

pack a bag-
To place one's belongings in a suitcase or other type of luggage, usually for a trip.

pair of glasses/pants-
Although glasses and pants are singular items, due to having two lenses and two legs, respectively, they are referred to as a pair.

paint someone's nails
To polish fingernails or toenails with a coloured enamel.

pass a law-
When legislation becomes official by a voting governing body.

pass test-
To make a grade which is sufficient enough to constitute a positive exam result.

pathological liar-
A person who lies frequently and habitually without having need to. These lies often make the person who tells them seem more interesting or successful than they actually are.

pay a visit-
To make a special social appointment to see someone.

pay attention-
To give focus to something by observing it closely.

pay day-
The day when someone is scheduled to receive money for work they have done.

peace and quiet-
Quiet and solitude with no noise.

perfect timing-
Knowing the exact right moment to do something.

personal belongings-
Objects which are the property of someone.

piece of paper-
A sheet of paper.

piece of music-
A composed work of music. This can refer to any genre of music.

play games-
There are two meanings for this phrase. To engage in a friendly competition in which one can win or lose. It can also mean to handle a situation in a non-serious fashion or without respect.

pleasant surprise-
An unexpected situation which has a positive outcome.

point of view-
One's way of thinking or a particular outlook or perspective on something.

popular opinion/belief-
Something which is believed to be true by many people.

post office-
The place where one can send and receive packages or buy boxes and postage for shipping.

prepare for the worst-
To expect that something bad will happen.

press a button-
To depress a key, bell, or ringer in order to achieve something.

prison sentence-

Punishment for committing a crime which involves a stretch of time spent in prison or jail.

pull a muscle
An injury involving stressing or stretching a muscle to the point of pain.

push back-
Either to delay a date or a negative reaction to something.

put on clothes/shoes-
To wear clothing and shoes on the body.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. I like _______ after the noise and stress of work.
2. Please gather all of your __________ before leaving the airplane.
3. She likes to ________ red because it is her favourite colour.
4. I would like to _______to my aunt because she is in the hospital.
5. The company has received ________ after the controversial news came out.

Key:
1. peace and quiet
2. personal belongings
3. paint her nails
4. pay a visit
5. push back

SET 17

quality control-
The branch of a company which is responsible for ensuring that their products all have the same standard of quality.

quality of life-
The general conditions of how people live in a certain place. It can be described as good, excellent, high, low etc.

quick bite-
Eating food when one does not have a lot of time to devote to sitting down at a restaurant or cooking a meal.

quiet night in-
Spending the night at home.

quit my job-
To leave your job voluntarily.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. I want to get a ______ (to eat) before the movie. I’m starving.
2. The ______ department needs to be alerted because there have been some complaints.
3. I haven’t enjoyed working in this company for months, so I might ______.
4. Let’s have a ________ and stay at home.
5. Many people want to live here because of the excellent ______.

Key:
1. quick bite
2. quality control
3. quit my job
4. quiet night (in)
5. quality of life

Set 18

rainy day-
To describe a day in which it is raining.

raise concern-
To formally express apprehension about something.

raise your voice-
This phrase has two meanings. It can either mean to express yourself in a more obvious way, or it can mean speaking too loudly.

read aloud-
To read using your voice so that others can hear you. Its opposite is reading to yourself.

receive presents-
To get gifts from someone.

receiving end-
To be affected by the intentional actions of someone else. It is usually not a positive position to be in.

recent graduate-
A person who has just matriculated through an educational institution, usually university.

red eye-
A flight which departs late in the evening and arrives to its destination early in the morning.

regular exercise-
Working out on a consistent schedule.

research and development-
A branch of company which is dedicated to discovering and exploring new products or areas of interest.

ride a horse-
To sit on a horse for transportation, sport, or leisure while it walks or runs.

ride a motorcycle/bike-
To use these vehicles for transport or leisure.

rough draft-
A finished form of a written work that still needs further editing.

royal family-
The monarchy of a country.
running water-
Water which is accessible inside the home through a system of pipes. Synonymous with indoor plumbing.

runny nose-
Often the symptom of a cold or flu, when the nose has an uncontrollable flow of mucus.

run late-
Not being able to arrive at an agreed upon time. This is the opposite of being on time.

rush hour-
Periods of time when traffic on the roads is particularly heavy because of commuters going to and leaving work. There are usually two rush hours per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The ____flight leaves at 9pm.
2. I hate ______ because it is difficult to drive in all the water
3. I wanted to leave early in order to avoid (the) ____traffic.
4. She _____ to her boss about not making enough money.
5. With _____and a good diet it is easy to be healthy.

Key:
1. red eye
2. rainy days
3. rush hour
4. raised concerns
5. regular exercise

Set 19

save money-
The opposite of spending. Saving money is an attempt to be frugal with one's finances.

schedule an appointment-
To arrange to be somewhere at a specific time. This is not usually used for social engagements, but rather for business.

scented candles-
A candle that gives off a pleasant smell.

second opinion-
Seeking out the opinion of another person or professional, usually because one is dissatisfied with the opinion of the first person they asked.

secret Santa-
A gift-giving game played at Christmas in which a group of people purchase gifts for each other without knowing who will give whom a gift.

see through-
A description of a fabric or other material which is transparent.

set the table-
To place dishes, silverware, napkins, and glasses on a table in preparation for having a meal.

serving size-
The appropriate amount of food to eat in one sitting.

shake hands-
A greeting in which two people grasp hands briefly.

shelf stable-
Used to describe foods or other products like cosmetics which do not need refrigeration to remain fresh.

skip a meal-
Not eating breakfast, lunch, or dinner, either as a way to lose weight or because one does not have time for them.

social life-
The leisure time one spends with friends and family outside of work or studies.

solve a problem/issue-
Talking a series of actions in order to fix a difficulty.

sore throat-
A pain in the throat. This could be due to speaking too much, too loudly, or being ill.

sounds good-
An affirmative answer which confirms that the speaker is happy with the present situation.

square dance-
A type of group dance which involves repetitive steps.

spare room-
This phrase can be used to describe a room in someone's house which does not have an allocated purpose and can be used for visiting guests. This phrase can also be used to speak about any extra space in a location.

speak highly (of someone)-
To say words of praise about someone or something.

special occasion-
A positive event which does not happen often.

spend time-
To allot time to doing a particular activity.

still going-

Something that hasn’t stopped yet.

study hard-
To work diligently at learning new material.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. My sister sleeps in the _____when she comes to visit.
2. I have a _______ after speaking all weekend at the conference.
3. She often has to _______ because she can’t leave work during the day.
4. The curtains won’t protect us from the sun because they’re ______.
5. I am cooking more at home in order to ________.

Key

1. spare room
2. sore throat
3. skip lunch
4. see through
5. save money

SET 20

take a photo-
To use a camera to capture photo.

take a survey-
To complete a questionnaire about one's thoughts or experiences, usually for scientific experiments.

take a test-
To complete an exam.

take a taxi-
To use a taxi to get from one place to another.

take toll-
Something which causes injury or damage (usually slowly and gradually).

take care-
To be careful or focus of your wellbeing.

take in clothing-
Taking clothing to the tailor to make it smaller. The opposite is to let clothing out which makes it bigger.

take off clothes/shoes -
To remove clothing or shoes from the body.

talking head-
News and sports correspondents who speak about their respective fields on television programs.

tell time-
To use a watch in order to know the time.

throw a tantrum-

To scream and yell due to anger or displeasure, usually used to talk about childish or childlike behaviour.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. It is clear that the long hours at work are _________ on her health.
2. My two-year old son is just learning how to ________ using an analogue clock.
3. All of the students at the school must ________ to graduate.
4. The angry patron ________ after the manager refused to help her.
5. I always use my phone's camera to ________.

Key

1. taking a toll
2. tell time
3. take a test
4. threw a tantrum
5. take photos

SET 21

undergo surgery-
To be operated upon for medical purposes.

unfair advantage-
A benefit which is not evenly applied to everyone.

upper management-
The most senior levels of a company or business.

upset about-
To be bothered or agitated about

upset stomach-
To feel pain in the abdomen, indigestion.

used car-
A vehicle which has been owned by someone else.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. After eating too much food, you may have an_________.
2. Buying a _______ is cheaper than buying a new one.
3. I knew she was ________ something because she was crying.
4. Some people view being wealthy as an ________ in life.
5. He had to __________in order to repair his ligament.

Key:
1. upset stomach
2. used car
3. upset about
4. unfair advantage
5. undergo surgery

SET 22

vague memory-
A faint recollection of something that is not fully formed.
vast majority-
Most or many of something.

victory lap-
A way of celebrating after winning a competition. Literally, it means an extra lap around a track after a win. Figuratively, it is any type of celebration after any type of win.

visiting hours-
The times available for people to visit others in the hospital or similar institutions.

voice your opinion-
To express the way you think or feel on a certain topic.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. The hospital's ________ are from 9am to 5pm.
2. She only had a ________of where she might have lost her keys.
3. It is important to __________ in meetings.
4. The ________ of people spend their free time watching series and chatting on social media.
5. They took a _______ around the bar after they won trivia night.

Key
1. visiting hours
2. vague memory
3. voice your opinion
4. vast majority
5. victory lap

Set 23

walk the dog-
To put a pet dog on a leash and take it outside for exercise or to let it go to the bathroom.

wake up-
The opposite of going to sleep.

wash clothes (do the washing)-
To clean clothes with soap and water, usually by using a washing machine.

wash my/your face-
To clean one's face of dirt or makeup using water and some kind of cleanser.

washing machine-
A special machine used to wash clothing mechanically.

waste time-
Not using time in a productive matter. This is usually not done on purpose, but rather on things that someone thinks are useful but actually are not.

wide variety-
A large collection.

wilful ignorance-
Ignoring evidence which is contrary to a person's beliefs so that the person can still maintain that their beliefs are correct.

win the lottery-
Getting money after playing the lottery.
wishful thinking-
Imagining a future which is based on one's desires rather than actual evidence.

wise man/woman-
A man or woman who has a lot of wisdom.

within reason-
Something that is an attainable goal.

wrap a present-
To cover a gift in decorative paper before presenting it.

work out-
To exercise.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. My father always ________ early, even on the weekend.
2. If I ________, I would buy a new house.
3. The ______ is broken so my clothes are in the sink.
4. Can you _______ after work? He has been inside all day.
5. She doesn’t like to _________ being on social media.

Key

1. wakes up
2. won the lottery
3. washing machine
4. walk the dog
5. waste time

SET 24

yearly review-
An evaluation which happens every year.

yet again-
Something that has re-occurred.

you guys- (American)
A plural version of you.
young man/woman-
A youthful person.

Quick Review

Test your knowledge- put the correct collocation in the blank. You might need to change the form of the words.

1. My friend was late ______, so I left the party without her,
2. Can _______please bring some snacks?
3. The ________ over there is the one who helped me.
4. Her company's _______ is in April.

Key

1. yet again
2. you guys
3. young man
4. yearly review

Thank you

☺

I hope you’ve found it useful!

As I mentioned in the foreword, a lot of hard work has gone into this project.

My whole objective with this book is to help you reach your ultimate goal of achieving an 8.5 in your IELTS test. As I mentioned at the start, this book is not designed to be an exhaustive list of collocations, but instead, a focused and easy-access guide for exam preparation. Review any sections that you feel you need to and use them as a starting point for further research and practice.

What Next?

In the next few pages, you’ll find a massive bundle of free resources you can get hold of, including letter and email templates, presentation templates and grammar and vocabulary resource books! As a free member with exclusive access to my free starter library, you’ll also get free reports, books and articles to help you take your English to the next level!

If you enjoyed this book, I’d be very grateful if you’d post a short review on Amazon. Your support really does make a difference and means a lot to me. I read all the reviews personally, so I can get your feedback and make this book even better in the future.

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